

## RECOVERY OUTLINE

# Wilson's Storm-Petrel (subantarctic)

1	Family	Hydrobatidae
2	Scientific name	<i>Oceanites oceanicus oceanicus</i> (Kuhl, 1820)
3	Common name	Wilson's Storm-Petrel (subantarctic)
4	Conservation status	
	Australian breeding population:	Vulnerable: D2 (< 1% global population)
	Population visiting Australian territory:	Least Concern

### 5 Reasons for listing

Although the Australian population is reasonably large, it breeds at only two locations (Vulnerable: D2). The global population is Least Concern. As it is assumed that there is little genetic exchange between the Australian and extralimital sub-populations, the national status of the breeding population is determined independently of the global status (as per Gärdenfors *et al.*, 1999).

Australian breeding colonies	Estimate	Reliability
Extent of occurrence	5,000,000 km <sup>2</sup>	medium
trend	stable	high
Area of occupancy	40 km <sup>2</sup>	medium
trend	stable	high
No. of breeding birds	10,000	low
trend	stable	low
No. of sub-populations	2	high
Largest sub-population	10,000	low
Generation time	10 years	medium
Global population share	< 1 %	medium
Level of genetic exchange	low	low

### 6 Intraspecific taxa

*O. o. exasperatus* breeds on the Antarctic mainland and Scotia Sea islands. Global status of species is Least Concern.

### 7 Past range and abundance

Breeds in Australian territory on Macquarie and Heard Is. Extralimital populations breed south of Indian and Atlantic Oceans. Migrates north after breeding, reaching well north of the equator (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).

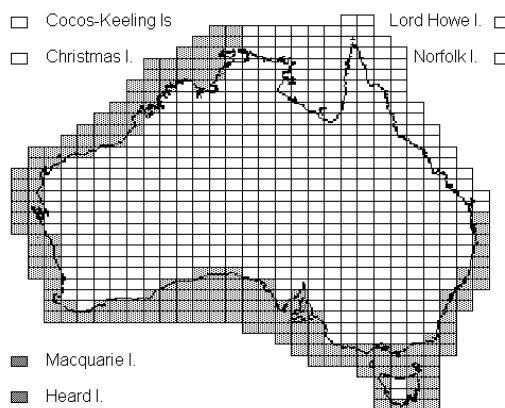
### 8 Present range and abundance

Distribution as above. Recorded from Heard I. (Downes *et al.*, 1959), but no estimate of sub-population size (Marchant and Higgins, 1990). One pair recorded breeding on Bishop I. (N. Brothers).

### 9 Ecology

Wilson's Storm-Petrels nest in burrows or crevices among rocks, and feed on small crustaceans,

particularly euphausiids, fish and cephalopods plucked from the ocean surface (Marchant and Higgins, 1990).



### 10 Threats

On land, cats and rats are likely to be significant predators. In the marine environment, fishing around subantarctic islands for krill could affect the species and should be monitored.

### 11 Information required

11.1 Determine trends in numbers.

### 12 Recovery objectives

12.1 A stable or increasing population over a period of decades.

### 13 Actions completed or under way

13.1 Monitoring of breeding population size and success is ongoing.

13.2 Feral animal control is ongoing.

### 14 Management actions required

None.

### 15 Organisations responsible for conservation

Australian Antarctic Division, Environment Australia  
Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service.

### 16 Other organisations involved

Antarctic Science Advisory Committee.

## 17 Staff and financial resources required for recovery to be carried out

Staff resources required 2001-2005

1.0

Technical Officer (monitoring)<sup>1</sup>

1.0

Technical Officer (ferals)<sup>1</sup>

Financial resources required 2001-2005

Action	Conservation agencies	Other funding sources	Total
Monitoring breeding sub-populations <sup>1</sup>	\$21,900	\$0	\$21,900
Feral animal control on Macquarie I. <sup>1</sup>	\$277,900	\$0	\$277,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$299,800</b>	<b>\$0,000</b>	<b>\$299,800</b>

<sup>1</sup> Costs of Macquarie I. monitoring and feral animal control shared among 19 threatened taxa; Heard I. monitoring divided among 17 taxa

## 18 Bibliography

Downes, M. C., Ealey, E. H. M., Gwynne, A. M. and Young, P. S. 1959. The birds of Heard Island. *Australian National Antarctic Research Reports (Series B)*.

Gärdenfors, U., Rodríguez, J.P., Hilton-Taylor, C., Hyslop, C., Mace, G., Molur, S. and Poss, S. 1999. Draft guidelines for the Application of IUCN Red List Criteria at National and Regional Levels. *Species* 31-32:58-70.

Marchant, S. and Higgins, P. J. (eds) 1990. *The Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic Birds*. Oxford University Press, Melbourne.

### Comments received from

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